



03500.017915

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| In re Application of: |) | |
| | : | Examiner: Unassigned |
| Taisuke MATSUURA |) | |
| | : | Group Art Unit: Unassigned |
| Application No.: 10/780,684 |) | |
| | : | |
| Filed: February 19, 2004 |) | |
| | : | |
| For: IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS |) | March 16, 2004 |

Commissioner for Patents
Post Office Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the patent documents listed on the enclosed citation Form PTO-1449. A copy of the non-English patent document and counterpart abstract are also enclosed.

STATEMENT/PETITION/FEE

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three (3) months of the filing date of the application. Accordingly, Applicant submits that no Statement, Petition, or fee is necessitated by the filing of this paper. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to

charge any fee, which may be deemed necessary in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement to Deposit Account No. 06-1205. A duplicate of this Information Disclosure Statement is enclosed for that purpose.

REMARKS

Japanese Patent Document No. 5-181373 is discussed at least at page 6, lines 16 through 19 of the specification.

Japanese Patent Document No. 2-123385 is discussed at least at page 5, line 26 through page 6, line 2 of the specification. U.S. Patent No. 5,450,180 is identified as being in the patent family of Japanese Patent Document No. 5-181373.

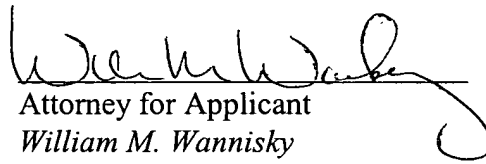
CONCLUSION

It is respectfully requested that the cited information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Favorable consideration hereof is earnestly solicited.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our New York office at the address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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WMW/tas

FORM PTO 1449 (modified)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICELIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT
(Use several sheets if necessary)

Submitted to the PTO: March 16, 2004

MAR 16 2004

ATTY DOCKET NO.

03500.017915

APPLICATION NO.

10/780,684

APPLICANT

Taisuke MATSUURA

FILING DATE

February 19, 2004

GROUP

Unassigned

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| *EXAMINER INITIAL | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
|----------------------|--------------------|----------|----------------|-------|----------|-------------------------------|
| | 5,450,180 | 09/12/95 | Ohzeki, et al. | 355 | 274 | |
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT |
|--------------------|----------|---------|-------|----------|---------------------------------------|
| 2-123385 | 05/10/90 | Japan | | | Abstract |
| 5-181373 | 07/23/93 | Japan | | | Abstract |
| | | | | | |
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OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Sheet 1 of 1